

REMARKS

Applicants have amended the specification to correctly reflect the priority information of the present application. Applicants have added new Claims 11-15. Applicants further reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications to the canceled subject matter, if they so wish. Claims 8-15 are currently pending in the above referenced application. New Claims 11 and 12 are supported by original Claims 8 and 9. Support for new Claim 13 is found at page 10, lines 34-35 and page 11, lines 19-20. New Claims 14 and 15 are supported by page 9, lines 31-34. No new matter has been entered.

Claims 8-15 are before the Examiner for consideration.

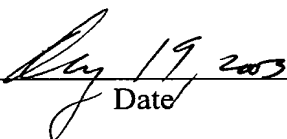
CONCLUSION


Applicants respectfully submit that, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application is in condition for examination. Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

PIPER RUDNICK LLP


Date


Steven B. Kelber
Registration No. 30,073
Attorney of Record

1200 Nineteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036-2412
Telephone No. (202) 861-3900
Facsimile No. (202) 223-2085

Perry E. Van Over
Registration No. 42,197